

MOMs UnLtd - Tips to Try Today

November 2011
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Grace Chapel

~by God's grace we are "unlimited" as moms in the influence we possess to raise our children "for their good and God's glory!"

Christmas Time for Thanksgiving?

With families flung far and wide, sometimes Thanksgiving serves as a proxy Christmas celebration. If you are having out-of-town visitors for a few days this Thanksgiving and want to get festive, here are a few low-budget Christmas events in Philly and beyond!

THE MACY'S GRAND COURT LIGHT SHOW : Every hour on the hour from Friday, Nov. 25 - Friday, Dec. 23: 10am-8pm . At Macy's at 1300 Market Street, Phila. (215) 241-9000 (www.wanamakerorgan.com/xmas.php has additional dates) **FREE**

THE DICKENS VILLAGE at Macy's: Friday, Nov. 25 - Friday, Dec. 23: 10am-7pm. Enter Macy's in at 1300 Market St in Phila. through 3rd Floor Holiday Lane. (see above website for additional dates) **FREE**

THE COMCAST HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR : Friday, Nov. 25 – January 1, 2012, 10:00a to 8:00p featuring 15-minute shows at the top of each hour. (Shows are not presented on weekdays at 5:00 p.m.) At Comcast Center, 1701 John F. Kennedy Blvd., Phila. (See the article on the next page for more details!)

✿ And Grace Chapel's own ✿

Kids' Khoir and Straight Street Puppets present:

"The Christmas County Spelling Bee"

Sunday, December 4th 6:00 p.m.

Cookie / Cocoa Reception Following
Child care for
the youngest among us!

MOMs Review

Remember to put our energy into **SAV** :

- **Skill** - the art of Friendship; Yours and Your kids
- **Attitude** - "self esteem;" is it really all about ourselves?
- **Value** - what is it with "entitlement" these days?

Pinecone Crafts at MOMs this Week!

Today at MOMs, Bethany MacArthur shares a seasonal and simple way to make your home festive this Thanksgiving and Christmas! With pinecones as the medium, the craft offers you and your kids a terrific excuse to enjoy the outdoors.

Basic Supplies:

While there are many crafts to choose from, some basic supplies will facilitate your project:

- ✿ Gloves to protect from sap
- ✿ Plastic bag to collect pinecones (for 24 hours to eliminate bugs)
- ✿ A fun place with many different trees!

Store bought pinecones count too!



Cute Turkey Ornament

Craft Ideas

- ✿ Spicy scented pinecones with cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, all spice
- ✿ Fire starter – dip in wax
- ✿ Christmas decorations like garland or hanging clusters
- ✿ Ornaments (hedgehog, turkey, reindeer, snowman)
- ✿ Centerpieces
- ✿ Wreaths

Check out

Pineconelady.com/crafts, Youtube.com and Etsy.com for more ideas.

Thank you Bethany!!

Seasonal Squash Soup

Ingredients

- Cubed Squash
- 1 can chicken Broth
- Dab butter
- Pinch Parsley
- Pinch nutmeg
- Cubed apple (cider, juice or sauce)
- Pinch brown sugar
- Dab sour cream

Directions

1. Combine and cook until mushy (all but sour cream)
2. Add sour cream to taste

A family recipe – we don't like to measure ©

Proverbs 22:6

"Point your kids in the right direction and when they are old; they won't get lost" (M)

"The Comcast Holiday Spectacular 2011"

~Courtesy of Dennille Varney on behalf of Comcast

In just its fourth year, "The Comcast Holiday Spectacular" has become a must-see holiday tradition in Philadelphia, entertaining people of all ages and spreading holiday cheer.

Full of captivating holiday imagery and music, this year's show dazzles with enchanting scenes from The Nutcracker, beautifully performed by the renowned Pennsylvania Ballet, a sleigh ride through the snow covered Pennsylvania countryside, the majestic sounds of a 64-piece orchestra, and the

harmony of the Commonwealth Youth Choir's Keystone State Boychoir and Pennsylvania Girlchoir, and more. Shown on The Comcast Experience video wall — the world's largest 4mm LED video display — features the 15 minute show every hour on the hour Thanksgiving Day through New Year's Day.

In the spirit of the season, The Comcast Holiday Spectacular 2011 welcomes all to share in celebrating the holidays in this free, unique, and family-friendly tradition.

\$ • € • ₪ • £ • kr • ¥ • ¢ Money Saving Tip

Check your bank statements! Several new fees are creeping up at many mainstream banks. Monthly fees can be as high as \$8.95 for regular services like paper statements, seeing a teller or using a debit card. If you find a fee, complain to your bank. Bank of America just reversed some recent charges due to customer backlash!

UPDATE: "Busy Bag" Swap for Toddlers / Pre-Schoolers

Due to crazy (but fun) holiday schedules, Tiffany has kindly **postponed the Busy Bag Swap until after the New Year**. During that time, she will be putting together some sample activities (with help from anyone who would like to) for show and tell at MOMs!

With a little table set up to **view sample activities** AND the skill that it builds in the children (i.e. color, shape, fine motor, pre-handwriting, etc.), we're hoping **more moms** will be interested and available to participate.

So stay tuned for **specific updates** in the coming weeks and we can get those toddler bags ready before the first snow — Whoops!! too late! Well, God-willing, the second snow!


You can still contact Tiffany to jump in! tiffany.malloy@gmail.com





Button Matching
(<http://therigneys.wordpress.com>)


Helpful Hints: Traditions For Thanksgiving

Chances are the memories we keep from childhood holidays include a tradition of some kind. Here are some ideas for families to consider for their own hearth and home.

 **Build a Book of Thanks** year after year by creating a sheet with letters A-Z. You or your child fills it out with things they are thankful for. It will be fun to see how their ideas progressed over time! ~Thanks MaryAnn!!

 **Continue a Keepsake Cloth.** Add handprints or notes to a tablecloth and add to it each year.

 **Use Examples of Gratitude.** Ask each family member to bring to the table three things that represent what they were thankful for. The discussion allows all to learn what really matters most to each family member.

 **Include Each Child In The Preparation.** Put each child in charge of an age appropriate task; toddlers can combine ingredients in a bowl; younger kids can set the table with colors of their choosing and older kids can take a side dish.



Source: <http://familyfun.go.com/thanksgiving>

MOMISMs

"The worst that ever happened to my kids happened right in front of me!"

- Grandma Bucko